

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2009-_____
PESTONI BROTHERS LLC AND SOUTH LAKE REFUSE & RECYCLING
SOUTH LAKE REFUSE RESOURCE RECOVERY AND COMPOST
FACILITY ON QUACKENBUSH MOUNTAIN
LAKE COUNTY

Pestoni Brothers LLC owns, and South Lake Refuse & Recycling (jointly hereafter Discharger) operates the South Lake Refuse Resource Recovery and Compost Facility on Quackenbush Mountain in Lake County. The Discharger submitted a November 2008 amended Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) to revise the waste discharge requirements (WDRs) to allow composting of up to ten percent food waste mixed with green waste as co-collected organic materials from residential, commercial, and agricultural sources using existing windrow composting methods. The Discharger also proposed to compost food waste from commercial sources and agricultural waste (primarily grape pomace) mixed with green waste using either Covered Aerated Static Pile Method (CASP Method) or the Enclosed Vessel Aerated Static Pile Method (EVASP Method). The major changes are that the facility did not formerly accept food waste, and did not formerly conduct composting using either the CASP Method or the EVASP Method. Additionally, in a 24 April 2009 letter, the Discharger proposed to use the Containerized Aerated Static Pile System Covered with Compost Method (CASPPC Method) for food waste. The revised RWD also proposes an expansion of the existing construction and demolition debris (C&D) processing area to five acres that would include a 30,000 square foot building.

The facility is to ultimately have capacity for up to 60,000 cubic yards of feedstock and compost in place. The Order includes requirements for all areas of the proposed facility including the composting, processing, and storage areas, the C&D processing area, and a potential future mobile home dismantling area. The composting area drains to a lined runoff retention basin. Since only the green/food waste composting, processing, and storage areas drain to the runoff retention basin, the Order requires all non-inert wastes, including the gypsum wallboard, to be placed in covered bins or inside of buildings so the waste is not exposed to storm water. The Order also requires the Discharger to maintain coverage under the general NPDES permit for discharges of storm water associated with industrial facilities, and to prepare a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, which the Discharger has done.

Green/food waste composting is conducted on engineered pads compacted to 92% of maximum dry density. The geotechnical study indicates that the onsite surface and near surface soil will exhibit hydraulic conductivities of 1×10^{-5} cm/s or less at this compaction. The runoff retention basin is lined with a 60-mil geosynthetic liner to prevent percolation of the stored runoff and leachate into the ground and underlying groundwater. These site-specific requirements (that are less stringent than would be required under Title 27, California Code of Regulations) are based on a depth to groundwater of approximately 200 feet, sandy clay soils, and substantial topographic relief allowing for good drainage from

the pads to the runoff basin. Further details on regulatory requirements for this facility are provided in Finding Nos. 8 through 11 of the WDRs.

The Discharger proposes to process food waste from commercial sources and agricultural waste (primarily grape pomace) mixed with green waste using either CASP Method, the EVASP Method and/or the CASPCC Method. The CASP Method combines a waterproof, synthetic fabric cover with a computerized aeration control technology to optimize composting conditions for all types of feedstocks. The impermeable cover eliminates rain percolating through the pile and therefore reduces the total nutrient found in facility runoff. Proper grading of the site must be maintained to provide limited intrusion of storm water around the edge of the cover. The EVASP Method is similar to the CASP Method, but uses a collapsible, portable bag system. The bags are 10 to 12 feet wide and up to 350 feet long and also eliminate rain percolating through the pile, and prevents contact of compost with storm water. The CASPCC Method is similar to the EVASP Method, but uses a containerized aerated static pile system covered with compost material. The food waste is composted in modified debris boxes covered with compost as the bio-filter to control odors.

Incoming trucks will be received and weighed at a scale to be constructed along the road leading to the facility. Trucks arriving at the nearby Eastlake Landfill and will be directed to the composting facility after a cursory load check. The source separated green and food waste materials delivered to the compost facility will be directed to the receiving area where the facility personnel will conduct a load check upon deposition. Contaminated and non-compostable materials will either be returned to the hauler or placed in bins located near the receiving area for appropriate off-site disposal. Green material will be processed in a portable grinder in the processing area and deposited directly into the windrows. Materials will be composted on the compacted low permeability pad areas constructed as required by this Order. Water from the retention basin will be added to the compost to achieve the proper moisture conditions. When the desired level of decomposition has been achieved, the compost materials will be moved to the curing areas or left in place until shipment from the site.

Surface water drainage from the composting areas drains to a lined runoff retention basin. This Order requires the retention basin to be designed to capture runoff from the composting area that would be expected from at least a 25-year, 24-hour storm event. Surface water from other areas of the facility drains north to an unnamed tributary to Burns Valley Creek that is tributary to Clear Lake.

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